

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

Volume 4-Number 14 –March 23, 2007/ Page 1

This Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

DEADLINE EXTENDED

The deadline for the ABC awards program for outstanding Elementary Guidance programs has been extended until May 15 2007. Please see all details and the application forms on the National Consortium of State Guidance Leadership web site www.guidanceconsortium.com

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

(From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA listservs or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.)

{CURRICULUM}

CURRICULUM AVAILABLE!!!

The Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program Curriculum lessons that reflect the newly revised Standards and Grade Level Expectations are available on the Missouri Center for Career Education (MCCE) website at <http://missouricareereducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/lessons/index.php>

{INDIVIDUAL PLANNING}

FREE INDIVIDUAL PLANNING RESOURCE AVAILABLE

For three years, Kuder and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education brought you the Missouri College and Career Planning System (MCCPS), but now an enhanced system is available.

Missouri Connections is a new, graphically-advanced and innovative system that takes the place of the MCCPS. This service continues to be provided FREE OF CHARGE. Students (grades 6-14), parents, and educators can now use this enhanced, statewide system available at www.missouriconnections.org.

SOMETHING TO SHARE WITH PARENTS AND STUDENTS

A monthly reminder and helpful hints about preparing for college is available by e-mail from the Department of Higher Education. To sign up for this, go to: <http://www.dhe.missouri.gov/reminders2.shtml>

{RESPONSIVE SERVICES}

A REMINDER ON A GOOD RESOURCE TO UTILIZE IN SUICIDE PREVENTION:

Missouri has seven agencies that serve as Regional Resource Centers to provide suicide prevention services across the state. The Resource Centers engage community partners to develop and implement local strategies, provide public education and training, offer support for survivors, and promote proven practices to help with preventing suicide within their designated service areas. To obtain more information about these centers, go to:

<http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/cps/issues/suicide/ResourceCenters.htm>

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

Volume 4-Number 14 –March 23, 2007/ Page 2

SOMETHING TO CONSIDER IF ASKED TO WORK WITH A CHILD. DO YOU KNOW A CHILD WHO DOES NOT SPEAK IN CERTAIN SOCIAL SETTINGS?

-- Selective Mutism (SM) is a complex childhood anxiety disorder characterized by a child's inability to speak in select social settings, such as school. These children understand language and are able to talk normally in settings where they are comfortable, secure and relaxed. However, what is clear is that children and adolescents with SM have an actual fear of speaking and of social interactions where there is an expectation to talk. They may also be unable to communicate nonverbally, may be unable to make eye contact and may stand motionless with fear as they are confronted with specific social settings.

The Selective Mutism Group-Childhood Anxiety Network (SMG-CAN) is a non-profit organization that has been formed to help one another and children who experience SM. They share experiences and knowledge in order to fulfill their mission to promote public awareness, to research and educate about Selective Mutism, and to speak out for children who can't speak for themselves.

A Family conference will be held July 12-14, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza in St. Louis for school, treating and medical professionals and parents. For more information about the conference, and to see more information about this disorder, go to <http://selectivemutism.org/>

{SYSTEM SUPPORT}

INFORMATION FROM KUDER:

As the end of the school year approaches, they would like to give thanks for another year of usage with the Kuder® Career Planning System and give a reminder of two important things to get done before school lets out.

The sale on the Develop Your Future® curriculum continues through the end of March; the Kuder Six Clusters paper-based version of DYF is available for \$99.95, marked down from \$349.00. There is a limited supply, so order soon. Our Inside Sales Department will be happy to answer any questions you may have at 800.314.8972 or info@kuder.com.

The Harrington Foundation, a not-for-profit organization, is dedicated to helping students reach their educational goals. Again this year, they are providing scholarships to high school graduates. Encourage your students to visit www.theharringtonfoundation.org to learn more about this year's scholarship opportunities. Applications will be accepted between March 30 and April 30, 2007.

As always, if you should have any questions regarding the Kuder Career Planning System, please call our Customer Support Department at 877.999.6227, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., CST.

CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS OF NOTE:

A. SPRING TRAINING INSTITUTE will be held May 16-18, 2007 at Tan Tar A. This conference, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Mental Health, gives attendees the opportunity to learn more about mental health issues that confront Missourians of all ages. For more information about this, go to <http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/cps/springtraining/springtraining.htm>

B. THE AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (ASCA) CONFERENCE WILL be June 23-26, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center. For more information, go to: <http://www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?pl=325&sl=129&contentid=182>

C. MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION (MCEC) CONFERENCE will be July 11-13, 2007 with a pre-conference July 10-11 at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City. For more information and a registration form, go to: <http://www.militarychild.org/KansasCity.asp>

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Title IX Coordinator, 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0480; telephone number 573-751-4212.

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

Volume 4-Number 14 –March 23, 2007/ Page 3

D. ANNUAL CHARACTER EDUCATION CONFERENCE will be held July 19-20, 2007, in St. Louis. Information is available at <http://www.characterplus.org/>

E. 2007 MISSOURI ACTE SUMMER CONFERENCE AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS WILL be held July 23-July 26, 2007 in Springfield. For conference information and registration, go to <http://www.mo-acte.org/conferences/2007/>